

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 07042 290212Z

43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 SS-15 NSC-10 DODE-00 PA-03

USIA-15 PRS-01 L-03 RSR-01 /096 W

----- 078757

R 281605Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 7042

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, NI

SUBJECT: NEWLY FORMED NTUF FACES FIRST CRISIS

REF: LAGOS 6922

SUMMARY: EMBRYONIC NTUF SUFFERED SET-BACK WHEN ONE PARTICIPATING UNION, NWC, CLAIMED IT HAD NOT SIGNED AGREEMENT TO MERGE. NWC CLAIMS DECEIT AND HASTE AS BASIS FOR THEIR REFUSAL TO DISSOLVE BUT LEAVES DOOR OPEN FOR FULL SCALE MERGER. END SUMMARY

1. NEWLY CREATED NIGERIAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION (NTUF) SUFFERED FIRST SET-BACK OVER WEEKEND WHEN LEADERS OF NIGERIAN WORKERS COUNCIL (NWC) HELD PRESS CONFERENCE TO DENY NWC'S WILLINGNESS TO DISSOLVE. NWC PRESIDENT R. A. ADELE AND GENERAL SECRETARY J. U. AKPAN TOLD PRESS NWC HAD AGREED TO PARTICIPATE IN NTUF BUT COMMITTEE CREATED TO EXPLORE FORMATION OF NEW NATIONAL CENTER HAD NOT COMPLETED ITS WORK AND NWC HAD THEREFORE NOT SIGNED AUGUST 23 AGREEMENT. THEY ACCUSED NTUC LEADERS OF IGNORING NWC ADVICE TO CANCEL AUGUST 23 MERGER MEETING UNIT ALL PROBLEMS CONCERNING NEW CENTER HAD BEEN SOLVED. NWC LEADERS SPECIFICALLY ASSERTED THAT PROBLEMS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF VARIOUS NATIONAL CENTERS COMBINING TO FORM NTUF MUST BE SETTLED BEFORE NWC CAN CONSIDER DISSOLUTION.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 07042 290212Z

2. AKPAN CLAIMS NWC ASSETS ARE NOT BEING GIVEN ADEQUATE RECOGNITION IN NEW GROUPING, WHILE LUF IS BEING GIVEN CREDIT FOR NON-EXISTENT ASSETS. HE ALSO CHARGES NTUC LEADERS WITH PUSHING MERGER AT FASTER PACE THAN THAT ORIGINALLY AGREED UPON.

3. NWC CONSIDERS ITSELF AS PART OF NTUF BUT NOT TO THE EXTENT THAT IT WILL DISSOLVE ITS EXECUTIVE. DISSOLUTION WILL TAKE PLACE, IF AT ALL, ONLY WHEN QUESTION OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES HAS BEEN SOLVED.

4. NTUF FORMATION ALSO GAVE RISE TO REACTIONS FROM OTHER UNION CENTERS. ULC WESTERN STATE SECRETARY, G. K. BALOGUN, SAID ULC REMAINS INTERESTED IN ASSOCIATING WITH ORGANIZATIONS VOLUNTARILY JOINED TOGETHER BUT VIEWS NTUF AS AN ATTEMPT TO RE-GROUP LABOR LEADERS AND NOT TRADE UNIONS OR THEIR MEMBERS. NIGERIAN FEDERATION OF LABOR, MINOR SPLINTER GROUP, CLAIMS NTUF IS POLITICALLY MOTIVATED AND IS COMPOSED OF INCOMPATIBLE GROUPS. NFL LEADER BASSEY ETIENAM QUESTIONS ABILITY OF NTUF TO ENCOMPASS NTUC'S AFFILIATION WITH WFTU AND NWC'S AFFILIATION WITH WCL.

5. COMMENT: NWC STATEMENT APPEARS AS FIRST OVERT SIGN THAT NTUF UNITY MAY BE EPHEMERAL. WHILE NWC LEAVES ROOM FOR CONTINUED ASSOCIATION WITH NTUF, PUBLIC REVELATION OF DIFFERENCES COULD MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR MERGER TO TAKE PLACE. NWC LEADERS HAVE BEEN CLOSE TO ULC OFFICIALS IN THE PAST, AND PRESENT NWC RELUCTANCE TOWARD NTUF COULD REFLECT ULC'S INFLUENCE. RELUCTANCE MAY ALSO REFLECT RECOGNITION BY NWC OFFICIALS THAT MERGER WITH NTUF WOULD BE FINAL, AS NEW TRADE UNION DECREE MAKES IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR SPLINTER GROUPS TO FORM ANOTHER NATIONAL CENTER. NWC LEADERS, IN POSITION TO STAND PAT WITH THEIR FMG RECOGNITION AS NATIONAL CENTER, MAY FEEL THEY CAN USE NTUF/ULC RIVALRY TO THEIR ADVANTAGE AND WAIT FOR TWO GROUPS TO ATTEMPT TO OUT-BID EACH OTHER. REINHARDT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LAGOS07042
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730811/aaaaahxi.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LAGOS 6922
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEWLY FORMED NTUF FACES FIRST CRISIS
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, NI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005